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INTERGOVERNMENTAL NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE FOR
THE ELABORATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION IN THOSE COUNTRIES
EXPERIENCING SERIOUS DROUGHT AND/OR
DESERTIFICATION, PARTICULARLY IN AFRICA
Eighth session
Geneva, 5-16 February 1996
Agenda item 1

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Note by the Secretariat

Provisional Agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
2. Preparation for the Conference of the Parties
3. Special action
   - (a) urgent action for Africa
   - (b) action taken in other regions
4. Status of signature and ratification of the Convention
5. Review of the situation as regards extrabudgetary funds
6. Adoption of the provisional agenda for the ninth session
7. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its eighth session

GE.95-64329

Annotations to the agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Arrangements have been made for the eighth session to be held at the Palais des Nations in Geneva, on 5-16 February 1996.

At the seventh session, the Committee adopted the provisional agenda for the eighth session, as contained in Appendix IV of the Report of the seventh session (Document A/50/74/Add.1). The provisional agenda is submitted for adoption.

A list of documents for the session and other documents of relevance is provided in Annex I. In addition to normal distribution, documents will be made available on the Secretariat's world wide web site at the following address on the Internet: <http://www.unep.ch/>. A tentative schedule of work is provided in Annex II.

The session will be opened by the Chairman of the Committee at 15:00 p.m., on 5 February. The Plenary will hear statements from representatives of INCD member countries, Heads of UN Agencies and the Chairman of the Committee. After these statements, the Executive Secretary will introduce the documents prepared by the Secretariat.

Under this agenda item, the Committee will also review document A/AC.241/9/Add.10 on the accreditation of non-governmental organizations.

The Bureau will meet, prior to the opening of the session, at 10:00 a.m., on 5 February.

2. Preparation for the Conference of the Parties

This agenda item refers to issues which require a decision at the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties, or soon thereafter. The INCD initiated work on these issues at its seventh session in two working groups, in accordance with resolution 6/1 on the organization and programme of work for the interim period. The current status of each issue is set out below.

Working Group One Issues:

(a) *To initiate measures relating to the identification of an organization to house the Global Mechanism to promote actions leading to the mobilization and channelling of substantial financial resources, including its operational modalities*: in accordance with INCD decision 7/2, the Group will have before it document A/AC.241/43 providing a compilation of provisions of the Convention relevant to the functions and modalities of the Global Mechanism, a compilation of views at the seventh session and any supplementary submissions received not later than 15 October 1995, a draft list of criteria for the selection of an institution and any additional and complementary information received from institutions invited by the Chairman to advise on their interest and capacity to house the Global Mechanism.

(b) *To make recommendations for the designation by the Conference of the Parties of a Permanent Secretariat and arrangements for its functioning*: the Group will have before it, as requested in INCD decision 7/6, document A/AC.241/44 providing the report of the Secretary General on the nature of administrative arrangements that can be provided and on support from the United Nations to the Permanent Secretariat without being fully integrated in the work programme and management structure of any particular programme.

(c) *Financial rules*: consistent with decision 7/3, the Group will have before it document A/AC.241/45 containing a revised version of the draft financial rules taking into account the views expressed by delegations at the seventh session.

(d) *Programme and Budget*: consistent with decision 7/4, the Group will have before it document A/AC.241/46 containing a revised version of document A/AC.241/36 taking into account the views expressed at the seventh session as well as views communicated to the secretariat.

Working Group Two Issues:

(a) *Organization of scientific and technological cooperation, in particular the terms of reference of the Committee on Science and Technology, the establishment and maintenance of a roster of independent experts, and the terms of reference and modalities of work of any ad hoc panels that the Conference of the Parties may decide to appoint*: the Group will have before it document A/AC.241/47 containing, in accordance with INCD decision 7/9, draft terms of reference of the Committee on Science and Technology on the basis of comments and suggestions made at the seventh session and of further views communicated to the Secretariat in writing before 15 October 1995, and (b) a compilation of views by INCD members at the seventh session on the roster of independent experts and ad hoc panels.

(b) *Rules of procedure of the Conference of the Parties*: consistent with decision 7/7, the Group will have before it document A/AC.241/48 providing a revised text reflecting comments and discussions made at the seventh session.

(c) *Procedures for communication of information and review of implementation, as well as measures taken by Member States and international and other relevant organizations*: the Group will have before it document A/AC.241/49 containing, in accordance with INCD decision 7/8, a draft decision of the Conference of the Parties based on document A/AC.241/39, on comments and suggestions made at the seventh session and on written contributions.

(d) *Procedures to resolve questions on implementation*: Article 27 of the Convention provides that "the Conference of the Parties shall consider and adopt procedures and institutional mechanisms for the resolution of questions that may arise with regard to the implementation of the Convention". The Group will have before it document A/AC.241/50 reviewing the main considerations pertaining to this item and suggestions with respect to future steps.

(b) *Procedures for conciliation and arbitration*: Article 28, paragraphs 2 and 6 of the Convention provide that the Conference of the Parties shall adopt annexes on conciliation and arbitration "as soon as practicable". The Group will have before it document A/AC.241/51 reviewing this issue and including draft annexes.

3. Special action: urgent action for Africa and action taken in other regions

The Plenary will continue its examination of measures taken to implement the resolution on urgent measures for Africa, as well as action taken in other regions.

The Executive Secretary will report on measures taken by the Secretariat to facilitate special action, on cooperation with relevant bodies or agencies and coordination with other conventions.

4. Status of signature and ratification of the Convention

The Executive Secretary will present a status report on this item. The Committee may wish to consider whether any action is required to promote ratification and accession.

5. Review of the situation as regards extrabudgetary funds

The Committee will have before it document A/AC.241/52 submitted by the Secretariat indicating the present status and funding needs of the Special Voluntary Fund to support the participation of developing countries, and the Trust Fund for the negotiating process.

6. Adoption of the provisional agenda for the ninth session

The provisional agenda for the ninth session will be attached to the report of the eighth session.

7. Adoption of the report of the session

A draft report on the work of the session will be presented for consideration by the Committee, in accordance with established practice.

ANNEX I

List of documents for the eighth session of the Committee

A/AC.241/42	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
A/AC.241/43	Identification of an organization to house the Global Mechanism
A/AC.241/44	Designation of a permanent secretariat and arrangements for its functioning
A/AC.241/45	Financial rules
A/AC.241/46	Programme and budget
A/AC.241/47	Scientific and technical cooperation
A/AC.241/48	Draft rules of procedure of the Conference of the Parties
A/AC.241/49	Procedures for communication of information and review of implementation
A/AC.241/50	Procedures to resolve questions on implementation
A/AC.241/51	Procedures for conciliation and arbitration
A/AC.241/52	Review of the situation as regards extrabudgetary funds
A/AC.241/9/Add.10	List of non-governmental organizations recommended for accreditation

Other documents of relevance

Secretariat documents:

Fifth session:

A/AC.241/27	Final text of the Convention

Sixth session:

A/AC.241/28	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
A/AC.241/29	Work programme for the interim period and preparation for the Conference of the Parties
A/AC.241/30 and Add.1	Compilation of information on implementation of the resolution on urgent measures for Africa
A/AC.241/31	Review of the situation as regards extrabudgetary funds

Seventh session:

A/AC.241/32	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
A/AC.241/33	Identification of an organization to house the Global Mechanism
A/AC.241/34	Designation of a permanent secretariat and arrangements for its functioning
A/AC.241/35	Financial rules
A/AC.241/36	Programme and budget
A/AC.241/37	Scientific and technical cooperation
A/AC.241/38	Draft rules of procedure of the Conference of the Parties
A/AC.241/39	Procedures for communication of information and review of implementation
A/AC.241/40	Implementation of urgent action for Africa and action in other regions: compilation of information
A/AC.241/41	Review of the situation as regards extrabudgetary funds
A/AC.241/9/Add.9	List of non-governmental organizations recommended for accreditation
A/AC.241/40	Compilation of information on implementation of the resolution on urgent measures for Africa
A/AC.241/41	Review of the situation as regards extrabudgetary funds
A/AC.241/41/Ad.1	" "

Report of past INCD sessions:

A/49/84/Add.2	Report of the INCD on its fifth session
A/50/74	Report of the INCD on its sixth session
A/50/74/Add.1	Report of the INCD in its seventh session

General Assembly resolutions:

Resolution 47/188 of 2 December 1992

Establishment of an intergovernmental negotiating committee for the elaboration of an international convention to combat desertification in those countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa

Resolution 48/191 of 21 December 1993

Elaboration of an international convention to combat desertification in countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa

Resolution 49/115 of 19 December 1994

Observance of World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought

Resolution 49/234 of 23 December 1994

Elaboration of an international convention to combat desertification in countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa

ANNEX II

Tentative schedule of work

Date	Plenary	Working group I	Working group II
Monday, 5 Febr A.M.10:00	Bureau meeting		
P.M.15:00	Adoption of agenda and organization of work; introductory statements; status of signature and ratification (Doc. A/AC.241/42)	------	------
Tuesday, 6 February A.M.10:00	Special action: urgent action for Africa	------	------
P.M.15:00	" "	------	------
Wednesday 7 February A.M.10:00	Special action: action taken in other regions	------	------
P.M.15:00	" "	------	------
Thursday, 8 February A.M.10:00	-----	Global Mechanism (Doc. A/AC.241/43)	Rules of procedure of the COP (Doc. A/AC.241/48)
P.M.15:00	------	Global Mechanism (Doc. A/AC.241/43)	Communication of info and review of implementation (Doc. A/AC.241/49)
Friday, 9 February A.M.10:00	------	Designation of a Permanent Secretariat (Doc. A/AC.241/44)	S&T cooperation (Doc. A/AC.241/47)
P.M.15:00	------	Financial rules (Doc. A/AC.241/45)	S&T cooperation (Doc. A/AC.241/47)

Date	Plenary	Working group I	Working group II
Monday, 12 February A.M. 10:00	Review of session progress Review of situation as regards extrabudgetary funds (Doc.A/AC.241/52) Accreditation of non-governmental organizations (Doc. A/AC.241/9/Add.10)	------	------
P.M. 15:00	------	Programme and budget (Doc. A/AC.241/46)	Procedures to resolve questions on implementation (Doc. A/AC.241/50)
Tuesday, 13 February A:M. 10:00	------	[Item to be determined]	Conciliation and arbitration (Doc. A/AC.241/51)
P.M. 15:00	------	" "	[Item to be determined]
Wednesday, 14 February A.M. 10:00	------	" "	" "
P.M: 15:00	------	" "	" "
Thursday, 15 February A.M. 10:00	------	" "	" "
P.M. 15:00	------	------	------
Friday, 16 February A.M. 10:00	Adoption of report and provisional agenda of ninth session	------	------

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FOR THE ELABORATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION
IN THOSE COUNTRIES EXPERIENCING SERIOUS
DROUGHT AND/OR DESERTIFICATION,
PARTICULARLY IN AFRICA
Eighth session
Geneva, 5-16 February 1996
Agenda item 2

IDENTIFICATION OF AN ORGANIZATION TO HOUSE THE GLOBAL MECHANISM

Note by the Secretariat

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GE.95-64769

I. INTRODUCTION

1. After discussion of the Global Mechanism in Working Group I and the Committee, at its seventh session, the INCD adopted resolution 7/2, which requested the Secretariat to:

(a) compile inputs regarding the Global Mechanism from the seventh session of the Committee, along with any supplementary submissions from member States to the Secretariat not later than 15 October 1995;

(b) identify and compile from the Convention and regional implementation annexes articles relevant to the functions and modalities of the Global Mechanism; and

(c) prepare a preliminary draft list of criteria for selection of an institution to house the Global Mechanism.

2. This note responds to these requests. Its major sections cover the three areas that the INCD indicated. The last section suggests possible action by the Committee at the eight session.

II. INPUTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY SUBMISSIONS FROM MEMBER STATES

3. Part A below is a summary of comments made in Working Group I during the seventh session of the INCD regarding the mission, functions and modalities of the Global Mechanism. Part B similarly summarizes submissions supplementing inputs at the seventh session that the Secretariat had received from member states as of the date of this note. Any submissions received later will be made available to delegations at the eighth session. The summaries in Parts A and B do not cover discussion of the procedural matters that the adoption of decision 7/2 resolved nor do they record at this stage preferences regarding the appropriate institutions to host the Global Mechanism. While there was broad agreement on many points, there has thus far been no attempt to reach consensus. In some cases, therefore, there may be contradictions and overlap between the points listed below, as is often the case in documents reflecting the totality of views on a matter. The points in both Part A and Part B are grouped under three sub-headings to facilitate understanding of them.

A. Inputs at seventh session

(a) *Objective and mission of Global Mechanism (GM)*

(i) The basic mission of the GM is to maximize both the availability of funds for implementation of the Convention and the efficiency of existing financial mechanisms.

(ii) The GM is a new concept. Although it is not a fund, it has important facilitative functions in mobilizing, as well as channelling, existing and additional resources.

(iii) The GM should have a facilitative and advisory mamdate. It should not raise funds for the institution that houses it. Its activities should fall between the low and high (clearing house and proactive) options outlined in the International Fund for Agricultural Development(IFAD) submission to the INCD.

(iv) Coordination is an important aspect of GM operations.

(v) Pursuant to article 21, paragraph 4, of the Convention, the basic objective of the GM is to "increase the effectiveness and efficiency of existing financial mechanisms." To do this, it will generally "promote actions leading to the mobilization and channelling of substantial financial resources" through existing mechanisms.

(vi) The GM should be more than a "letter box." It must play a role in ensuring the availability of funds even if it does not itself raise funds. Its activities should fall between the low and high options suggested by IFAD.

(vii) The GM should act as a coordinator and facilitator of existing funding sources, including both bilateral and multilateral ones. Lack of coordination is a key constraint to implementation of the Convention.

(viii) The GM has to be more than a source of information, clearing house and facilitator.

(ix) The basic mission of the GM is to ensure that all affected developing countries, in particular those in Africa, can easily obtain needed financing.

(x) The GM should identify resource gaps and then do something about them by mobilizing, catalysing and leveraging financial resources.

(xi) The GM should facilitate a programme and process, not a project, basis for implementing the Convention. It should support the bottom-up approach, emphasizing awareness and participation.

(b) *Functions of Global Mechanism (GM)*

(i) Article 21, paragraph 5, of the Convention lists some GM functions but the list is not exhaustive as the words *inter alia* indicate. Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) could make a contribution to the inventory of programmes referred to in article 21, subparagraph 5 (a). In accordance with subparagraph 5 (b) of the same article, the GM could offer advice about national desertification funds. As part of its functions pursuant to subparagraph 5 (c), the GM should process, analyse and summarize information it gathers. Provision of information to facilitate financing of transfer of technology should be included.

(ii) Article 21, paragraph 5, enumerates specific GM responsibilities. The GM clearly should include as a priority the identification of existing financial mechanisms, both bilateral and multilateral, and actions to promote in relation to them. Beyond Article 21, paragraphs 4-7, there is much else in the Convention in which the GM could play a role, not only in articles 20 and 21 but elsewhere, for example in article 6 of the Convention and articles 14 and 15 of the African Annex.

(iii) In determining the functions of the GM, it is necessary to examine all relevant articles of the Convention and the annexes, not just articles 20 and 21.

(iv) The Convention and its integral annexes should be the sole basis for determining the functions of the GM.

(c) *Characteristics of host organization of Global Mechanism (GM)*

(i) The host organization should have long experience in developing countries.

(ii) The main characteristic of the host organization should be its capacity to perform the functions of the GM, which only the Conference of the Parties can determine. It should also be able to link the GM to other relevant organizations. A link with the OECD could, for example, help promote actions by bilateral donors.

(iii) Organizations other than the host institution should play a role in GM activities.

(iv) The GM should draw on experienced partners among other organizations, acting in effect as a focal point for a GM "hosting system."

(v) The host organization should clearly establish the accountability of the GM to the Conference of the Parties.

B. Supplementary submissions

(a) *Objective and mission of Global Mechanism (GM)*

(i) There are four important aspects to the mission of the Global Mechanism. First, it should support Convention implementation in affected developing country Parties by encouraging and attracting additional and adequate financial resources for action programmes at all levels from all potential sources, both official and private. Second, it should increase mobilization of domestic savings and identify gaps where regional and subregional cooperation can supplement national efforts. Third, it should improve coordination and cooperation among various funding sources, particularly in the framework of related United Nations conventions. Lastly, it should support establishment or enhancement of appropriate national institutional arrangements.

(ii) The GM should mobilize and coordinate existing funding mechanisms to ensure that they are used more effectively to combat desertification. While its primary mandate should be as a clearing house, should appropriate opportunities arise, it could also take a more proactive role in facilitating access by affected developing countries to funding. It should not, however, collect or administer funds itself. Its operations should reflect the role of national action programmes as focal points for the determination of funding.

(b) *Functions of Global Mechanism (GM)*

(i) Some of the functions of the GM in carrying out its basic mission include: convening, as appropriate, consultative meetings and pledging conferences; supporting economic and technical cooperation among affected developing country Parties, including joint projects and programmes; and identifying and reviewing measures to facilitate accelerated transfer of relevant technologies.

(ii) Functions of the GM could include advising affected developing countries on sources of funding, establishing contacts with financing sources to promote funding of desertification activities, and coordinating with broader consultative mechanisms such as World Bank Consultative Groups and UNDP Round Tables.

(c) *Characteristics of host organization of Global Mechanism (GM)*

(i) The host institution should operate the GM consonant with guidelines and recommendations of the Conference of the Parties based on the COP's periodic reviews of policies and trends related to financial resources for Convention implementation.

(ii) The host institution should already be active in combating desertification and have experience implementing project activities in country through an established field network. It should also possess a good capacity to coordinate with other institutions on desertification activities and to work with non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

III. COMPILATION OF RELEVANT ARTICLES OF CONVENTION

4. Annex I contains a compilation of Convention provisions related to financial resources that are relevant to the functions and modalities of the Global Mechanism. The first column of the compilation matrix catalogues relevant articles pertaining to finance in both the body of the Convention and its annexes. These articles are grouped to differentiate obligations of the Conference of the Parties as well as different groups of Parties.

5. The second column summarizes the relevant articles in capsule form. Since the summaries clearly cannot capture all the nuances of highly negotiated text, they should, therefore, in no way be regarded as substitutes for the provisions themselves but rather as memory aids pointing to the provisions.

6. The third column suggests some possible roles for the Global Mechanism in supporting the implementation of the relevant articles, consistent with its mandate in Article 21, paragraphs 4 to 6, of the Convention. Since there is considerable overlap in the articles themselves, the majority of possible roles suggested show up a number of times.

IV. PRELIMINARY DRAFT LIST OF CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF AN INSTITUTION

7. Annex II is the text of the preliminary draft list of criteria for selection of an institution to house the Global Mechanism. It is modelled as much as possible, as a number of delegations suggested during the seventh session, after Annex I of document A/AC.241/34 showing the categories of information which might be requested from international organizations that might provide administrative services to the Conference of the Parties and the Permanent Secretariat.

8. An appendix to Annex II presents a preliminary draft list of functions of the Global Mechanism. This appendix was derived by consolidating the functions in the third column of Annex I to eliminate both duplication and general references to the mission of the Global Mechanism.

V. POSSIBLE ACTION BY THE COMMITTEE

9. After holding a general discussion of this note, Working Group I could concentrate on the wording of Annex II and its appendix. If it could reach agreement on the functions of the Global Mechanism and the criteria that partially flow from them for selecting a host institution, the Working Group could recommend to the INCD a decision inviting interested organizations to make submissions based on the criteria. The submissions could then be considered at a later session of the Committee.

ANNEX I

Compilation of Convention provisions related to financial resources and relevant to the functions and modalities of the Global Mechanism (GM) in implementation of the Convention to Combat Desertification

A. ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN BY THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES (COP)

Relevant Articles	Capsule Summary of Relevant Actions	Possible GM Roles in Supporting Actions
21.1 (a)	Facilitate provision of funding at all levels	Generally carry out GM mandate as elaborated by COP per article 21.5
21.1 (b)	Promote multiple-source funding approaches, mechanisms and arrangements	Promote, and facilitate coordination of, consortia, joint-programme and parallel-financing arrangements
21.1 (b)	Promote assessment of multiple-source funding	Promote, participate in and utilize, assessments of multiple-source-funding
21.1 (c)	Provide all interested Parties, organizations and entities with regular information on available funding sources and funding patterns	Gather/process/analyse/synthesize information on funding sources and patterns, using standard definitions of relevant expenditures; disseminate information to interested Parties, groups of Parties, organizations and entities, per article 21.5 (c), both on request and through publications, electronic fora and presentations
21.1 (d)	Facilitate establishment, as appropriate, of mechanisms, such as national desertification funds, to channel resources to the local level	Analyse/promote/facilitate operations of, and provide advice on, mechanisms to channel resources to the local level, including through NGOs; promote provision of seed money to them and funding for local-level programmes
21.1 (e)	Strengthen existing funds/ financial mechanisms at subregional/regional levels, particularly in Africa	Advise/provide information to regional and subregional financial mechanisms; promote and facilitate their financing and institutional strengthening
21.2	Encourage support at all levels from relevant agencies of UN system and multilateral financial institutions	Identify relevant UN agencies and multilateral financial institutions; promote support from them at all levels; involve them in multiple source financing; provide them with needed information; facilitate inter-agency coordination
22.2 (a) 22.2 (b) 26.7	Review implementation of Convention and facilitate exchange of information on measures adopted	Provide COP, to facilitate reviews, with reports on GM activities and on financial aspects of Convention implementation; give Parties materials to assist in preparing communications
26.7	Facilitate identification of financial needs associated with action programmes	Promote, synthesize and disseminate methodologies for identifying and prioritizing financial needs of action programmes at all levels; serve as clearing house for resulting data

B. ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN BY ALL PARTIES

Relevant Articles	Capsule Summary of Relevant Actions	Possible GM Roles in Supporting Actions
4.2 (h)	Promote use of existing financial mechanisms	Generally carry out GM mandate as elaborated by COP per article 21.5
9.3	Encourage relevant UN agencies and inter-governmental organizations to support elaboration, implementation and follow-up of action programmes	Identify relevant UN agencies and multilateral financial institutions; promote support from them at all levels; involve them in multiple source financing; provide them with needed information; facilitate inter-agency coordination
9.3	Encourage academic institutions, scientific community and NGOs to support action programmes	Identify NGOs, foundations and other private sector entities that might provide financing; maintain continuing contact to promote and facilitate financial assistance from them
13.1	Support action programmes by making financial cooperation more predictable, flexible and efficient	Facilitate assessment and exchange of information on effectiveness of financial aid; including predictability, flexibility, quality and local-level orientation
14.2	Develop mechanisms to ensure full coordination among all involved Parties, organizations and entities	Advise participants in consultative processes, per article 21.5 (b), on possible improvements in financial aspects of their activities; backstop them with information; work with broader consultative mechanisms such as consultative groups and roundtables
16 (c)	Support and develop programmes to finance data and information collection, analysis and exchange	Promote and facilitate financing, including multiple-source packages, of programmes for information and data collection, analysis and exchange
18.1 18.1 (c)	Finance/facilitate financing of transfer, acquisition, adaptation, development of relevant technologies, including technology cooperation among affected developing countries	Identify and provide information on financing sources for the transfer, acquisition, adaptation and development of relevant technologies, including technology cooperation among affected developing countries
20.1	Ensure availability of adequate financial resources	Generally carry out GM mandate as elaborated by COP per article 21.5
20.4	Seek full use/improvement of funding sources at all levels, using consortia, joint programmes and parallel financing	Promote, and facilitate coordination of, consortia, joint programme and parallel-financing arrangements; promote/participate in, and utilize, assessments of their effectiveness
20.4	Involve private sector funding sources and mechanisms, including those of NGOs	Identify NGOs, foundations and other private sector entities that might provide financing; maintain continuing contact to promote and facilitate financial assistance from them

20.5 (a)	Assess, rationalize, strengthen and reorient management of existing resources consistent with new approach in Convention	Facilitate assessment and exchange of information on effectiveness of financial aid, including predictability, flexibility, quality and local-level orientation
20.5 (b)	Give priority in governing bodies of multilateral financial entities to implementation of Convention	Provide information that might facilitate discussion in governing bodies of multilateral financial entities
14.2 of African Annex	Establish, regularly review and update inventory of funding sources available at all levels in Africa	Identify, draw up, regularly review and update, in collaboration with official and private financing sources, inventory of relevant cooperation programmes, particularly in Africa, per article 21.5 (a) of Convention
15.1 (a) of African Annex	Give priority to facilitating establishment, as appropriate, of mechanisms to channel resources to local level in Africa	Analyse/promote/facilitate operations of, and provide advice on, mechanisms to channel resources to local level in Africa, including through NGOs; promote provision of seed money to them and funding for local-level programmes
15.1 (b) of African Annex	Give priority to strengthening existing funds and financial mechanisms at subregional and regional levels in Africa	Advise and provide information to regional/subregional financial mechanisms in Africa; promote and facilitate their financing and institutional strengthening
15.2 of African Annex	Give due priority to Convention implementation in activities of relevant African regional/subregional financial institutions	Advise and provide information to regional and subregional financial mechanisms in Africa; promote and facilitate their financing and institutional strengthening
15.3 of African Annex	Streamline procedures for channelling funds to affected African Parties	Facilitate assessment and exchange of information on effectiveness of financial aid in Africa, including predictability, flexibility, quality and local-level orientation
16 (a) of African Annex	Limit support and backstopping costs, particularly overhead costs, to improve programme efficiency	Facilitate assessment and exchange of information on effectiveness of financial aid in Africa, including predictability, flexibility, quality and local-level orientation
7.1 of Asian Annex	Promote mobilization of substantial financial resources/availability of financial mechanisms in Asia	Generally carry out in Asia GM mandate as elaborated by COP per article 21.5
7.3 of Asian Annex	Streamline procedures for channelling funds to affected Asian Parties	Facilitate assessment and exchange of information on effectiveness of financial aid in Asia, including predictability, flexibility, quality and local-level orientation

C. ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN BY DEVELOPED COUNTRY PARTIES

Relevant Articles	Capsule Summary of Relevant Actions	Possible GM Roles in Supporting Actions
6 (b)	Provide substantial financial resources to assist affected developing country Parties	Identify relevant bilateral financing sources; generally work with developed Parties, and OECD, in carrying out GM mandate as elaborated by COP per article 21.5
6 (d)	Encourage mobilization of funding from private sector and non-governmental sources	Identify NGOs, foundations and other private sector entities that might provide financing; maintain continuing contact to promote and facilitate financial assistance from them
20.2 (a)	Mobilize substantial financial resources, including grants and concessional loans	Generally work with developed Parties and OECD in carrying out GM mandate as elaborated by COP per article 21.5
20.2 (b)	Promote mobilization of resources, including new and additional resources, from GEF in accordance with GEF Instrument	Work with staffs of GEF and implementing agencies, affected developing countries and participants in consultative processes in design of projects for GEF financing
20.2 (d)	Explore innovative methods and incentives for mobilizing and channelling resources	Identify, analyse, promote and provide advice about innovative methods and incentives for mobilizing and channelling resources
5.1 (a) of African Annex	Assist affected African Parties by providing and/or facilitating access to financial resources	Generally work with developed and affected African Parties in carrying out GM mandate as elaborated by COP per article 21.5 of Convention
5.1 (a) of African Annex	Assist affected African Parties by financing and/or facilitating financing of transfer/ adaptation/ access to appropriate technologies	Identify and provide information and advise on sources of financing for transfer, acquisition, adaptation and development of relevant technologies in Africa
5.1 (b) and 14.3 of African Annex	Allocate significant resources and/or increased resources to affected African country Parties	Generally work with developed and affected African Parties in carrying out GM mandate as elaborated by COP per article 21.5 of Convention
18.7 of African Annex	Develop informal process of consultation among themselves at all levels in Africa	Assist consultations among developed countries in Africa by providing appropriate information

D. ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN BY AFFECTED DEVELOPING PARTIES

Relevant Articles	Capsule Summary of Relevant Actions	Possible GM Roles in Supporting Actions
20.3	Mobilize adequate financial resources for national action programmes	Advise on, promote and facilitate assistance on mechanisms to mobilize domestic financial resources in affected developing Parties

E. ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN BY AFFECTED AFRICAN PARTIES

Relevant Article	Capsule Summary of Relevant Actions	Possible GM Roles in Supporting Actions
4.2 (c) of African Annex	Identify and mobilize new and additional national financial resources	Advise on, promote and facilitate assistance on mechanisms to mobilize domestic financial resources in affected African Parties
4.2 (c) of African Annex	Expand national capabilities and facilities to mobilize domestic financial resources	Advise on, promote and facilitate assistance on mechanisms to mobilize domestic financial resources in affected African Parties
9 (c) of African Annex	Identify and prioritize requirements for financial assistance	Promote, synthesize and disseminate methodologies for identifying and prioritizing financial needs of action programmes in Africa; serve as clearing house for resulting data
14.1 of African Annex	Develop policies and procedures to channel resources more effectively to local development programmes, including through NGOs	Analyse, promote and facilitate operations of, and provide advice on, mechanisms to channel resources to local level in Africa, including through NGOs; promote provision of seed money to them and funding for local-level programmes
18.1-18.3 of African Annex	Organize national, subregional and regional consultative processes to ensure financial cooperation consistent with Convention	Advise participants in consultative processes in Africa, per article 21.5 (b), on possible improvements in financial aspects of their activities; backstop them with information

F. ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN BY AFFECTED ASIAN PARTIES

Relevant Article	Capsule Summary of Relevant Actions	Possible GM Roles in Supporting Actions
4.1 (i) and 5.2 (d) of Asian Annex	Make appropriate bilateral and multilateral arrangements to support national and subregional action programmes	Identify relevant bilateral/ multilateral financial institutions; promote support from them at all levels in Asia; involve them in multiple source financing; provide them with information; facilitate inter-agency coordination
7.2 (a) of Asian Annex	Rationalize and strengthen mechanisms to supply funds through public and private investment	Advise on, promote and facilitate assistance on mechanisms to mobilize domestic financial resources in affected Asian Parties
7.2 (b) of Asian Annex	Identify international cooperation efforts, particularly financial, to support action programmes	Identify, draw up, regularly review and update inventory of relevant cooperation programmes in Asia per article 21.5 (a) of Convention
7.2 (c) of Asian Annex	Promote participation of bilateral and multilateral institutions in Convention implementation in Asia	Identify relevant bilateral and multilateral financial institutions; promote support from them at all levels in Asia; involve them in multiple source financing; provide them with needed information; facilitate inter-agency coordination
8.2 of Asian Annex	Consult and coordinate on national, subregional and joint action programmes, involving other Parties/ organizations as appropriate	Advise participants in consultative processes in Asia, per article 21.5 (b) of Convention, on possible improvements in financial activities; backstop them with information

G. ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN BY AFFECTED LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN (LAC) PARTIES

Relevant Articles	Capsule Summary of Relevant Actions	Possible GM Roles in Supporting Actions
6 (a) of LAC Annex	Rationalize/strengthen mechanisms to supply funds through public and private investment	Advise on, promote and facilitate assistance on mechanisms to mobilize domestic financial resources in affected LAC Parties
6 (b) of LAC Annex	Identify international cooperation efforts, particularly financial, to support action programmes	Identify, draw up, regularly review and update inventory of relevant cooperation programmes in LAC region per article 21.5 (a) of Convention
6 (c) of LAC Annex	Promote participation of bilateral/ multilateral institutions in implementation of Convention in Latin American and Caribbean region	Identify relevant bilateral and multilateral financial institutions; promote support from them at all levels in LAC region; involve them in multiple source financing; provide them with needed information; facilitate inter-agency coordination

7.1 (b) and 7.2 of LAC Annex	Set up mechanism to coordinate national focal points and hold periodic coordination meetings	Advise participants in consultative processes in LAC region, per article 21.5 (b) of Convention, on possible improvements in financial aspects of their activities; backstop them with information

ANNEX II

Preliminary draft criteria for selection of an institution to house the Global Mechanism (GM)

Functional capacity

1. Relevance of mandate, general objectives and activities of institution to overall objective of GM, "to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of existing financial mechanisms", and to its mission "to promote actions leading to the mobilization and channelling of substantial financial resources, including for the transfer of technology, on a grant basis, and/or on concessional or other terms, to affected developing country Parties"

2. Capacity of institution to organize GM to perform efficiently functions listed in Appendix, either on its own or in collaboration with other entities, in order to assist Conference of the Parties (COP), as well as individual Parties and groups of Parties, particularly those in Africa, to meet Convention obligations regarding financing

3. Modalities by which institution would perform functions listed in Appendix, including necessary arrangements with other entities

4. Context which institution offers for establishing effective relationships with other relevant entities, including its experience with, and knowledge of, operations of, bilateral, regional and multilateral financial institutions, as well as NGOs and other private-sector entities

5. Knowledge of institution regarding desertification and drought issues, and its experience working with government, local communities and other entities in affected developing countries, particularly those in Africa, in dryland management, local-area development and other relevant fields

Relationship to COP

6. GM's status within institution including organizational and administrative arrangements to ensure accountability to COP/responsiveness to COP guidelines

7. Modalities of GM accountability to COP and reporting on GM activities

8. Procedures for COP to enter into agreements with institution regarding GM functions and modalities, including nature, form and timing

Administrative and other support

9. Administrative infrastructure available to support GM activities, including location, office space, personnel, financial, communications, information management and field-office frameworks

10. Modalities of staffing GM

11. Projected costs of GM operation, extent to which institutions would absorb them and nature of charges to COP for costs not absorbed, if any

APPENDIX

Possible functions of Global Mechanism (GM)
in implementation of financial aspects of Convention

Information functions

(a) Identify, and establish continuing contact with, actual and potential sources of financing from bilateral donors, UN agencies, multilateral financial institutions and regional/subregional financial mechanisms, as well as NGOs, foundations and other private sector entities

(b) Draw up, regularly review and update, in collaboration with these sources and the OECD, an inventory of relevant cooperation programmes in different developing countries and regions

(c) Gather, process, analyse and synthesize information on the activities and patterns of these sources in different developing countries and regions, using standard definitions of relevant expenditures

(d) Disseminate such information, including information to facilitate discussion in the governing bodies of multilateral financial institutions, to interested Parties, groups of Parties, organizations and entities, including participants in consultative processes and consultations among developed country Parties in different regions, both on request and through publications, electronic fora and presentations

(e) Provide Parties with materials to assist in the preparation of communications required in the review by the Conference of the Parties of implementation of the Convention

Reporting Functions

(a) Provide the Conference of the Parties with reports, both to evaluate Global Mechanism activities and to facilitate review of the financial aspects of Convention implementation

Advisory functions

(a) Advise interested Parties, groups of Parties, organizations and entities in different regions, including participants in consultative processes, about:

(i) possible improvements in the financial aspects of consultative processes to facilitate the financing of partnership arrangements,

(ii) mechanisms to mobilize domestic financial resources in affected developing country Parties,

(iii) mechanisms to channel resources to the local and national levels, including through NGOs,

(iv) innovative methods and incentives for mobilizing and channelling resources,

(v) the financing and institutional strengthening of national, regional and subregional financial mechanisms

Facilitation and coordination functions

(a) Promote, synthesize and disseminate methodologies for identifying and prioritizing the financial needs of action programmes at all levels and serve as a clearing house for resulting information

(b) Promote financial support, including financing for the transfer, acquisition, adaptation and development of relevant technology and technology cooperation to and among affected developing countries, at all levels in different regions from bilateral donors, UN agencies, multilateral financial institutions and regional financial mechanisms, as well as NGOs, foundations and other private sector entities

(c) involve these entities in multiple-source financing arrangements; facilitate coordination among them, including in the operations of consultative processes; and work with broader consultation mechanisms such as consultative groups and roundtables

(d) Collaborate with relevant organizations, including the OECD, in promoting financial support from developed countries at all levels in different regions

(e) Promote, and facilitate coordination of, consortia, joint-programme and parallel financing arrangements, as well as promoting, participating in and utilizing assessments of such multiple-source financing

(f) Analyze, promote and facilitate the operations of mechanisms to channel resources to the local level, including through NGOs, while promoting the provision of seed money to these mechanisms and funding for local-level programmes more generally

(g) Promote and facilitate assistance on mechanisms to mobilize domestic financial resources in affected developing Parties

(h) Promote and facilitate the financing and institutional strengthening of regional and subregional financial mechanisms in different regions of the developing world

(i) Facilitate the assessment and exchange of information on the effectiveness of financial assistance in different regions, including its predictability, flexibility, quality and local-level orientation

(j) Promote and facilitate the financing, including through multiple-source packages, of programmes for information and data collection, analysis and exchange

(k) Identify, analyze and promote innovative methods and incentives for mobilizing and channeling financial resources

(l) Work with the staffs of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and its implementing agencies, as well as with affected developing country Parties and other participants in consultative processes, in the design of projects suitable for GEF financing